Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 VOE-00 SCA-01 MCT-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 H-02 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 /067 W

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R 080941Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN TO USIA WASHDC INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8888

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USIA FOR IOP, IEU

E. O. 11652: N/A SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS

COMPLETE TEXT FOLLOWS OF TODAY'S IRISH TIMES ARTICLE IN LETTER FROM NEW YORK COLUMN BY SEAN CRONIN, WASHINGTON'S MORAL CRUSADE.

"HUMAN RIGHTS" ARE THE TEST FOR A NEW KIND OF FOREIGN POLICY IN WASHINGTON; A MORAL FOREIGN POLICY AS OPPOSED TO THE KIND PURSUED BY HENRY KISSINGER.

ONE MAY TAKE THIS WITH A GRAIN OF SALT* THE WORDS HAVE WHATEVER MEANING ONE WANTS TO GIVE THEM. ALL THE SAME THERE ARE SOME CARTER ASSISTANTS WHO ARE MORALLY OUTRAGED BY THE WAY THE WORLD IS RUN.

AS YITZHAK RABIN, THE ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER, TOLD HIS CABINET WHEN CARTER REFUSED TO SHIP HIM CLUSTER BOMBS: THERE IS A NEW MORAL TONE IN WASHINGTON.'

AMONG THE MORALISTS ARE THE LIKES OF ANDREW YOUNG, MARTIN LUTHER KING'S CHIEF LIEUTENANT IN THE CIVIL UNCLASSIFIED

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RIGHTS CAMPAIGNS OF THE 'FIFTIES AND 'SIXTIES. AND ALLARD LOWENSTEIN WHO BEGAN THE DRIVE TO EVICT LYNDON JOHNSON FROM THE WHITE HOUSE.

YOUNG AND LOWENSTEIN ARE NOW AT THE U.N. NO-ONE SHOULD UNDER-ESTIMATE THEIR ZEAL FOR MORAL CRUSADES. THEY HAVE A HABIT OF SAYING UNDIPLOMATIC THINGS IN

PUBLIC.

AT THE MOMENT THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS NOT JUST IN THE SOVIET UNION AND EAST EUROPE, BUT ALSO IN THE ARGENTINE, CHILE, SOUTH AFRICA, RHODESIA. AND THEY MAY ADD BRITAIN AND IRELAND TO THE LIST BEFORE LONG.

BRITAIN AND IRELAND CAME UP THE OTHER DAY IN WASHINGTON IN TALKS WITH TWO OFFICIALS OF THE IRISH NATIONAL CAUCUS, A LOBBYING GROUP THAT IS CLOSE TO NORTHERN AID - WHICH IN TURN IS CLOSE TO THE PROVISIONALS.

THE SPOKESMEN WERE THE REV SEAN MCMANUS, A NATIVE OF DERRYLIN, CO FERMANAGH, NOW AT A REDEMPTORIST MISSION IN BOSTON; AND FRED BURNS O'BRIEN, A NEW ENGLAND LAWYER WHO WORKS FOR THE TREASURY.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE THEY TALKED TO MARILYN HAFT, THE PRESIDENT'S ASSISTANT ON INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS, AND ARRANGED TO MEET BOB HUNTER, AN ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, PROFESSOR ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI, ON ANOTHER OCCASION.

THEY MET JOSEPH DUFFY, A LEADING DEMOCRATIC PARTY POLITICIAN, WHO IS ALSO A CARTER ASSISTANT. LIKE LOWENSTEIN, DUFFY BELONGS TO THE LEFT, OR MCGOVERN, WING OF THE PARTY. HE WAS A LEADER OF THE ANTI-VIETNAM WAR MOVEMENT IN THE 'SIXTIES, AND IS AN OLD UNCLASSIFIED

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HAND AT OPPOSING GOVERNMENTS.

WE FOUND A NEW SPIRIT IN THE AIR,' FATHER MCMANUS SAID. THESE PEOPLE ARE STRONGLY COMMITTED TO HUMAN RIGHTS. WE PUT OUR CASE. WE TALKED OF A NUMBER OF THINGS. WE SPOKE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ALL IRELAND, NOT JUST THE NORTH. THEY SEEMED TO UNDERSTAND US. THEY ARE OPEN, DECENT PEOPLE, NOT JUST BUREAUCRATS.'

SPECIFICALLY, MCMANUS AND O'BRIEN RAISED THE MATTER OF A US VISA FOR RUAIRI O BRADAIGH, PRESIDENT OF SINN FEIN (KEVIN STREET). THE STATE DEPARTMENT WONT GIVE HIM A VISA. 'WE SAID THIS WAS NOT ONLY A DENIAL OF O BRADAIGH'S RIGHT TO COME HERE, BUT OF THE RIGHT OF AMERICANS TO LISTEN TO HIS PINT OF VIEW.'

ON CAPITOL HILL THEY FOUND THAT MANY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AGREED WITH THEM. I THINK WE ARE GOING TO GET O BRADAIGH A VISA,' FATHER MCMANUS SAID.

THEY TOLD THE WHITE HOUSE ASSISTANT'S ABOUT BRITAIN'S PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT, NOTING THAT SOMETHING LIKE 2,200 IRISH EMIGRANTS HAVE BEEN HELD WITHOUT CHARGE FOR UP TO SEVEN DAYS AND MORE THAN 90 HAVE BEEN DEPORTED.

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THEY MENTIONED THE "BRUTAL TREATMENT' OF IRISH PRISONERS. "WE POINTED OUT THAT THREE IRISHMEN HAVE DIED TRYING TO HIGHLIGHT THE SAVAGE CONDITIONS IN THESE JAILS," FATHER MCMANUS SAID. "THEY KNEW WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT. THEY DID NOT COMMENT, BUT I FELT THEY SYMPATHISED WITH US."

HE ADDED: 'IT HAS CHANGED EVERYTHING HERE THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF TORTURE. I'M NOT SAYING THEY AGREED WITH EVERYTHING WE SAID, BUT THEY KNEW WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUTM'

MCMANUS AND O'BRIEN ALSO MENTIONED THE DISCLOSURES IN THE IRISH TIMES THAT A SPECIAL FORCE OF GARDAI EMPLOYS SIMILAR INTERROGATION TECHNIQUES IN THE REPUBLIC.

ON CAPITOL HILL THEY URGED CONGRESSMAN CLEMENT J ZABLOCKI, CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, TO HOLD HEARINGS ON IRELAND. HE LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT

HE WOULD COOPERATE WITH US COMPLETELY,' SAID FATHER MCMANUS.

CONGRESSMAN DONALD FRASER, A LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC UNCLASSIFIED

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SPOKESMAN ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WAS INTERESTED IN WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY, PARTICULARLY ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS. ALTHOUGH THERE WERE NO PROMISES, 'I FEEL CERTAIN THERE WILL BE CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS,' FATHER MCMANUS ADDED.

WE TOLD EVERYONE WE TALKED TO THAT WHATEVER WE SAID WOULD BE DENIED BY DUBLIN AND LONDON" THE REDEMPTORIST CONTINUED. WE ALSO TOLD THEM WE OPPOSE THE POLICIES OF THE IRISH GOVERNMENT ON NORTHERN IRELAND AND WE KNOW THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER, DR GARRET FITZGERALD, WILL TRY TO CIRCUMVENT US AND DISCREDIT US.'

NEVERTHELESS, HE IS CONFIDENT THAT THIS TIME THE BRITISH AND IRISH GOVERNMENTS WILL NOT SUCCEED. HE EXPLAINED: 'WE LEVELLED WITH THOSE WE TALKED TO. MANY OF THEM HAD BEEN PROTESTERS THEMSELVES NOT LONG AGO.'

THE TWO IRISH CAUCUS PEOPLE REMINDED THE WHITE HOUSE OF CARTER'S PRE-ELECTION STATEMENT TO AN IRISH-AMERICAN DELEGATION IN PITTSBURGH: 'IT IS A MISTAKE FOR OUR COUNTRY'S GOVERNMENT TO STAND QUIET ON THE STRUGGLE OF THE IRISH FOR PEACE, FOR THE RESPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FOR UNIFYING IRELAND.'

AND THEY NOTED A RECENT CARTER VOW THAT HE WOULD STAND BY ALL HIS ELECTION PLEDGES.

ANDREW YOUNG LISTENED KEENLY TO WHAT O'BRIEN AND MCMANUS SAID ABOUT 'THE DENIAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS' TO SELECTED PERSONS IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

YOUNG HEADS THE AMERICAN MISSION TO THE U.N. HE IS A FORMER BLACK CONGRESSMAN FROM GEORGIA. MOST POLITICIANS SAY THAT WITHOUT HIM CARTER COULD NOT HAVE MADE IT TO THE WHITE HOUSE. UNCLASSIFIED

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YOUNG IS A CONGRESSIONALIST MINISTER. HE CELEBRATES

HIS 45TH BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH. HIS AMBITION IN THE UN IS TO RESTORE WHAT HE CALLS 'THE MORAL POWER' OF THE UNITED STATES.

HE HAS A WAY OF COMBINING THE IDEAL WITH THE REAL.
HE HOPED TO BE A MISSIONARY TO ANGOLA. BUT THE SALAZAR
GOVERNMENT BARRED BLACK AMERICAN PROTESTANT MISSIONARIES
FROM THE COLONY. WHEN YOUNG WENT TO CONGRESS HIS FIRST
LEGISLATIVE MEASURE WAS TO BAR THE TRANSFER OF NATO
EQUIPMENT TO PORTUGUESE FORCES IN ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE WHICH MAY HAVE COST THEM THE WAR. KRENE

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